

# **CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM AGENDA**



**Thursday, 16 December 2010**

**at 10.00 am**

**in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool**

**MEMBERS: CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM:**

Councillors Aiken, S Akers-Belcher, Brash, Cranney, Hall, Ingham, Laffey, Lauderdale, London, Maness, Morris, Payne, Richardson, Shaw, Simmons, Sutheran, H Thompson, Wells and Worthy

Resident Representatives: Ted Jackson, Robert Farrow, Peter Goodier, Evelyn Leck, Brenda Loynes, Steven Mailen, Brian McBean, Noma Morrish, Julie Rudge and Hilda Wales

- 1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**
- 2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS**
- 4. MINUTES**
  - 4.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2010
  - 4.2 Matters arising – (including Middleton Grange Shopping Centre)
  - 4.3 To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Central Area Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum held on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2010.
  - 4.4 Matters arising - Neighbourhood Policing

**5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME and WARD ISSUES (maximum of 30 minutes)**

Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton  
Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze

**6. ITEMS FOR CONSULTATION**

- 6.1 Hartlepool Core Strategy – Public Consultation on the Revised Preferred Options Report – *Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods*

**7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND/OR INFORMATION**

- 7.1 Presentation on the Big Tidy Up Campaign Update and Schools Environmental Action Initiative – *Pride in Hartlepool Officer and School Environmental Action Officer*

**8. ITEMS FOR DECISION**

No items

**9. DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Central Police and Community Safety Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday, 13 January 2011 at 10.00 am at Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road

The next meeting of the Central Neighbourhood Consultative Forum will take place on Thursday, 17 February 2011 at 2.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre.

# ***CENTRAL NEIGHBOURHOOD CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

**21 October 2010**

## ***MINUTES OF THE MEETING***



### **WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

### **PRESENT:**

Chair:	Councillor Kevin Cranney	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Martyn Aiken	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Gerard Hall	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor John Lauderdale	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Jane Shaw	- Stranton Ward
	Councillor Hilary Thompson	- Elwick Ward

Resident Representatives: Bob Farrow, Ted Jackson, Brenda Loynes, Steven Mailen, Norma Morrish and Hilda Wales

Public: Gordon and Stella Johnson, Jean Kennedy, Alan Lloyd, Dennis Loynes, Phil Matthews, Ray McAndrew, William Morrish, and Ray Waller

Officers:

- Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager (Central)
- Jon Wright, Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator
- Phil Hepburn, Parking Services Manager
- Neil Harrison, Strategic Commissioner – Working Age Adults
- Tony Dixon, Arboricultural Officer
- Laura Stones, Scrutiny Support Officer
- Jo Wilson, Democratic Services Officer

Housing Hartlepool Representative: Lynn McPartlin

### **20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Peter Ingham, Sarah Maness, George Morris, Robbie Payne, Carl Richardson, Chris Simmons and Ray Wells and Resident Representative Brian McBean.

### **21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## 22. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2010

Resident Jean Kennedy highlighted comments she had made regarding the removal of trees from the One Life Centre in Waldon Street which had been omitted from the minutes. The trees had been an effective screen from the daily occurrences at the centre for residents. There were also traffic problems around the centre. The Chair indicated that a special meeting had been arranged regarding these issues which he would be attending. He asked that the minutes be approved subject to the omissions and that additional information referred to by Mrs Kennedy be circulated with the minutes for this meeting

### Decision

That the minutes be approved subject to the following omission:

‘Resident Jean Kennedy referred to the removal of trees in Waldon Street near the One Life Centre, asking what would be done to replace them’

## 23. MATTERS ARISING

**Grange Conservation Area** – in relation to PVC windows Resident Ray McAndrew queried from which date was enforcement action effective – from 2004 when the conservation area was established, or February 2009 when the policy was introduced?

**Co-op Building** – Resident Ray McAndrew highlighted the unsatisfactory pointing on this building, commenting that it was amazing that a listed building could be left in such a state of repair. Claims that the council were unable to find the necessary tradesmen to carry out the work were an insult to the town’s bricklayers

**Minutes – Public Question Time – Park** – “Anti-social behaviour at the rear of Millston Close” (Resident Representative Brenda Loynes)

**Villages** – Councillor Hilary Thompson asked that references to “villages” in the minutes be clarified as there were 4 villages. The faulty lamppost referred to was in Elwick while the request for a speed indicator referred to Newton Bewley.

### Public Question Time – Park –

**27 Mountston Close** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes thanked officers for cutting the grass the morning after her concerns were raised. However the following week the grass outside no 27 was neglected once more.

**Tall Ships** – Resident Ray Waller commented upon the official opening of the Transport Interchange in time for the Tall Ships, despite the fact that it was not completed and the pedestrian link blocked off. He also questioned the claims that the Tall Ships was the biggest event in 2010 in the North East. Councillor Jonathan Brash clarified that it had been the biggest free event in the UK in 2010 while Councillor Hilary Thompson indicated that had everyone who attended paid £1 there would have been a profit. In terms of the Transport Interchange Councillor Brash felt the biggest stumbling block to its success was the attitude of the bus companies. He paid tribute to the Portfolio Holders for Regeneration and Economic Development & Transport and Neighbourhoods for supporting the scheme which would help protect public services.

## 24. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### Park

**Signage** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes advised that the sign outside 24 Mountston Close was badly faded while the sign at Meriston was covered by foliage. The Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator to investigate.

**Ward Jackson Park lodge** – Resident Representative Brenda Loynes raised concerns about the safety of a person who would be staying in the lodge building 2 nights per week. She highlighted recent anti-social behaviour such as the decapitation of wildlife and commented that as all these problems tended to happen on an evening when the person in question would be vulnerable. Councillor Jonathan Brash supported the decision to have someone staying in the building and asked whether the person concerned had spoken up or was this all supposition. In terms of the legal position the Portfolio Holder had given approval and a response was pending from the planning department regarding the need for planning permission in this case.

### Foggy Furze

**Oakland** – Councillor Martyn Aiken highlighted problems with litter and flytipping at the substation on the corner. The Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator to action this.

### Rift House

**VAT** – Resident Phil Matthews advised that he had recently been charged VAT on the rental charges of a Housing Hartlepool garage for the first time in 20 years. He felt this was discrimination as he would not have been charged if he

owned a council house whereas because he owned his own home he had been. The Chair disputed this saying everybody had to pay VAT however Mr Matthews insisted he never had before. Councillor Jonathan Brash advised Mr Matthews to direct his query to Housing Hartlepool as they set the charges not the council. The Chair asked the Housing Hartlepool representative to respond to Mr Matthews.

**Laurel Gardens** – Resident Phil Matthews asked that the land between Garrick Grove and Nash Grove be cleared by Housing Hartlepool as this had not been done at the time. The Housing Hartlepool representative advised that a landscaper had been contacted and the improvements would be made shortly.

**Fernbill Close** – Resident Representative Hilda Wales indicated there was still no road sign. The Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager to action this.

**Gray Road** – Resident Alan Lloyd thanked officers for resurfacing.

**Garrick Grove** – Resident Phil Matthews thanked officers for work carried out to the top of Garrick Grove

### Stranton

**Trees in Waldon Street** – Resident Jean Kennedy highlighted the removal of 46 trees in Waldon Street, saying they had taken away the outlook for residents. She queried why planning committee members had authorised their removal, commenting that when she had been a member of the committee trees had been protected. The Arboricultural Officer acknowledged that the decision to remove the trees had been made by the planning committee and they had been good quality trees. However a new landscaping scheme had been put

forward which would mature in time and improve the area. Resident Ray Waller expressed sympathy with Mrs Kennedy as there had been assurances during the One Life Centre negotiations that the Waldon Street trees would remain. He agreed with Mrs Kennedy that the newly planted trees were of a lesser standard than other trees around Hartlepool and felt more substantial trees might be appropriate. Mrs Kennedy felt that the trees had provided a barrier for the residents which had now been taken away. The Arboricultural Officer indicated that the newly planted trees were of an extra heavy standard however their smaller leaves might make them look more sparse than usual. When they matured they would look better.

**Elliot Street** – Resident Representative Julie Rudge reported leaking from the overflow toilet in the upstairs flat at 2a which the tenant and landlord had failed to address. This had led to green sludge which a child had recently slipped on. The Chair asked for this issue to be passed to the Private Sector Housing Team to investigate

**The Arches** – Resident Representative Julie Rudge highlighted problems for cars trying to manoeuvre at the back of the Arches. The Parking Services Manager indicated that a formalised bay scheme was being developed but the area would first need to be resurfaced.

**Thornton Street** – Resident Representative Julie Rudge queried where the seating was. The Neighbourhood Manager advised that it had been damaged and new seating was on order.

**Huckelhoven Way** – Resident Representative Noma Morrish asked if traffic calming could be considered.

**Richard Court** – A resident highlighted problems outside 1-5 Richard Court. The Housing Hartlepool Representative indicated that their Property Manager would carry out an inspection however when she personally had inspected the area she had not considered it to be a trip hazard. Also the cracks in the pavement had been there for some time and were not the fault of the contractor.

**Dropped kerbs** – A resident referred to a dropped kerb in Osborn Road which had recently been resurfaced. The white lines on the dropped kerb had been painted on incorrectly, giving the impression that parking was allowed on the dropped kerb. The Parking Services Manager to rectify this. The resident also commented that the resurfacing work had been inadequate and a waste of money however Councillor Jonathan Brash indicated that a lot of residents had wanted the resurfacing done and there might be no funding available for work of this kind next year.

**Yellow Lines** – Councillor Jane Shaw requested some clarification as to which of the yellow lines painted for the Tall Ships event were enforceable and which had only applied for the duration of the event. She suggested this could be included in Hartbeat magazine, given its town wide distribution.

**One Life Centre** – Councillor Jane Shaw asked that staff at the centre be asked to stop smoking, and leaving their cigarette butts, outside the centre. Councillor Jonathan Brash felt the PCT should be contacted regarding this as it was illegal to smoke on NHS property. The Chair would write a letter to the PCT expressing the forum's concerns

Resident Ray McAndrew asked whether the road layout could be amended so drivers did not have to drive down to the bottom of Park Road to turn round. He

suggested a slip road be installed. Resident Representative Bob Farrow also suggested a roundabout be installed as an alternative to lights. The Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator noted that this had been discussed previously but cost was a major issue. Signage indicating alternative available routes could work as a compromise.

**Middleton Grange underpass –** Councillor Jane Shaw indicated that the underpass leading to the shopping centre was not fenced off and needed to be made more secure as young people were using it. She also queried why the Manager of the Shopping Centre had never attended a meeting of the Forum despite repeated invitations. The Chair guaranteed the Manager would attend a future meeting which would be rescheduled to accommodate him if necessary.

**Brierton buses –** Resident Phil Matthews complained that the buses transporting children from the former Brierton School site had been speeding between Catcote Road and Stockton Road. The Chair asked that this information be passed on to the appropriate person.

**Tees Valley Bus –** Councillor Jane Shaw noted complaints about the language of the young people using the blue and white buses.

### **Burn Valley**

**Loop system –** Resident Ray Waller highlighted that the loop system in the Council Chamber was still not working and appealed for this to be rectified. Councillor Jonathan Brash agreed, saying that there had been frequent complaints from councillors and it was wrong for the hard of hearing to be disenfranchised.

**Dropped kerbs –** Resident Ray Waller highlighted people continually parking across dropped kerbs and impeding access for wheelchair users. The Parking Services Manager indicated that enforcement did take place while the Chair asked that any illegal parking be reported to the council's parking department.

**Park Road –** Resident Ray McAndrew queried when the repair work would be completed. He also referred to a depression by the traffic lights over York Road which might indicate the road giving way beneath the tarmac. The Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator was already aware of these issues.

**20mph zones –** Councillor Jonathan Brash noted that consultation on extending the current zone into Brinkburn and Baden Street was underway. He felt that this needed to be extended to the broader area and signage installed so it was clear where 20mph zones started and ended.

**York Road/Park Road North turn –** Resident Representative Bob Farrow asked if a right turn indicator could be installed as the yellow box made turning right problematic.

**Baden Street –** Councillor Gerard Hall referred to the current state of Baden Street with its plethora of boarded up houses and the need for action to rectify the situation. He also felt that Burn Valley Gardens were undervalued and wished the Burn Valley Group further success in attracting funding for future improvements.

**St Matthew's Hall –** Councillor Gerard Hall noted that the outside railings had been damaged and were now leaning over into the pavement.

## Elwick

**Resurfacing** – Councillor Hilary Thompson requested an update on the resurfacing work due to be carried out from the Windmill Public House to Falcon Road. The Senior Neighbourhood Co-ordinator would check whether this work was due to be completed when the contractor returned in March 2011.

**Tall Ships Park and Ride** – Resident Representative Steve Mailen asked whether the changes in road layout to accommodate the Tall Ships Park and Ride could be left in place as they were safer than what had been in place previously.

**Elwick/Dalton Piercy crossroads** – Resident Representative Steve Mailen advised that the signage was missing

**Devils Elbow** – Resident Representative Steve Mailen indicated that the chevrons at the Hartlepool to Elwick bend had all been vandalised.

**Elwick playground** – Resident Representative Steve Mailen reported that the retaining kerbs had disappeared, leading to mudflow onto the path.

**Dalton Piercy** – Resident Representative Steve Mailen referred to water near the Grove property overflowing over the bridge road in the winter months. This was a particular worry in freezing conditions.

## 25. MINOR WORKS PROPOSAL

Various schemes were put forward for consideration:

- I. Newton Bewley – traffic calming - £2,000 (total cost £6,000)
- II. Victoria Road – tree planting - £1282.59 (total cost £2382.59)

III. Elwick Road (Park Ward) – tree planting - £1361.48 (total cost £1361.48)

IV. Cameron Road traffic scheme – reduction of carriageway-width at Raby Road - £4515.93 (total cost £17,000)

## Decision

That the Minor Works schemes be recommended to the Portfolio Holder for approval.

## 26. PRESENTATION ON TREE STRATEGY

The Arboricultural Officer explained to those present that the Strategy would set out the Authority's guiding principles on tree-related issues and aims to enhance the role and status of trees in Hartlepool for the benefit of everyone who lives in, works in or visits the borough. Residents were encouraged to participate in the consultation which ended on 8 November 2010. Details were on line - [www.hartlepool.gov.uk/treesstrategy](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk/treesstrategy). Alternatively, the documents were available at the Council's Bryan Hanson House offices.

**Conservation Area** – Resident Representative Ted Jackson commented that damaged and diseased trees in conservation areas were not being replaced. He felt it was the duty of the owner of the land to provide a replacement tree when the existing tree was lost through damage or safety concerns.

**Sinclair Road** – Resident Representative Hilda Wales referred to a large tree on a resident's property which had been cut back badly and was now in danger of collapse. The Arboricultural Officer advised that if the tree was not covered



by a Tree Preservation Order then the resident had the right to cut back the tree up to the boundary of his property.

**Studley Road** – Resident Representative Bob Farrow asked whether the trees recently cut down would be replaced. The Arboricultural Officer indicated that he was in favour of this however it would depend on funds.

**Ward Jackson Park car park** – Resident Ray McAndrew asked whether the crab apple trees planted in the car park could be replaced with something more suitable due to the danger of apples falling onto the pavement. The Arboricultural Officer noted these comments.

The Chair thanked the Arboricultural Officer for attending the meeting and answering questions.

#### **27. PRESENTATION ON CHOICE BASED LETTINGS**

The Chair advised that this presentation had been removed from the agenda. Resident Representative Bob Farrow referred to a Rift House resident who had been trying to move to a house which was more appropriate to his needs for some time. The Housing Hartlepool Representative would ask the Choice Based Lettings Team to contact Mr Farrow regarding this.

#### **28. PRESENTATION ON PARKING STRATEGY**

The Parking Services Manager gave a brief presentation on the current consultation into Hartlepool's Parking Strategy. The Department of Transport had recommended that all local authorities have a parking strategy which would outline general strategic aims and key objectives. It was not however designed to consider individual concerns or specific sites. Contained within the

document were 7 strategy purposes and 20 policy aims. Copies were available and the Parking Services Manager asked for any responses to be forwarded to him through the post or via his email address [Philip.hepburn@hartlepool.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.hepburn@hartlepool.gov.uk).

The Chair asked how people could become involved in the Parking Consultative Group. The Parking Services Manager asked for further details saying additional members could be considered. In response to a query from resident Ray Waller the Parking Services Manager confirmed that the strategy included parking on pavements

The Chair thanked the Parking Services Manager for attending the meeting and answering questions.

#### **29. PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST**

The Strategic Commissioner for Working Age Adults gave a brief presentation on the transformation of adult social care over the last 4 years. The Putting People First agenda outlined the key elements of a reformed adult social care system and local authorities were expected to make significant progress by the end of March 2011 when there would be a review and refresh of Putting People First. Local Authorities were monitored against 5 key milestones:

- Effective partnerships
- Self directed support
- Prevention and early intervention
- Information and advice
- Local commissioning

The Strategic Commissioner demonstrated how each of these milestones were being met.

The Chair asked what was being done to further develop the Connected Care Service. The Strategic Commissioner advised that following a pilot in the Owton

area the benefits of Connected Care were currently being assessed. Funding was due to stop in March 2011 so officers were negotiating how the Council could help to progress Connected Care across the town.

Councillor Jonathan Brash referred to the white paper detailing future plans to move responsibility away from the PCT and into GP consortiums and asked whether plans were being made to consult with GPs regarding Connected Care. The Strategic Commissioner confirmed that an interim structure for the GP consortium was in place but it was unclear what would need to be done to engage current work and ensure previous work was not lost. Councillor Brash noted that the PCT and Safer Hartlepool Partnership had a role to play but as the local authority the Council needed to push the engagement of GPs.

Resident Ray Waller asked whether the funding for joint arrangements between the Council and other agencies such as the PCT was at risk.

Councillor Gerard Hall commented that the spending review promised additional grant funding for social care of £2 billion over the next 4 years. While any increase was welcome he queried how far that would actually go. His main concern was that the white paper would move responsibility away from the local authority into the private sector. He felt that if the council were going to be involved in prevention, early intervention and health promotion it made sense for the funding to come via the Council rather than the NHS. There was a need to promote how far Hartlepool had come in terms of social care and lobby for the retention of these services.

The Chair thanked the Strategic Commissioner for Working Age Adults for attending the meeting and answering questions.

<b>30. NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM – INVESTIGATION INTO 20S PLENTY – TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES</b>
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The Scrutiny Support Officer advised members that the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum were investigating '20s plenty – traffic calming measures' as part of their work programme for the current municipal year. A brief presentation was given explaining the aims and terms of reference of the investigation and asking for the views and comments of those present on this issue. Details were given of future investigation meetings, members were asked to contact the Chair of the Neighbourhood Services Scrutiny Forum or the Scrutiny Support Officer for further information or to lodge their comments. A questionnaire was also provided at the meeting.

Members expressed their support for the proposals particularly around schools. The Chair commented that previous physical traffic calming methods had been unsuccessful and might need to be reassessed. Councillor Jonathan Brash acknowledged this but said that in some areas signage would not be enough and physical measures would be needed. Councillor Brash asked that the implementation of 20mph zones be considered from a geographical perspective and the major routes should as York Road made exempt. The safety of residents and pedestrians must always be the primary concern.

Resident Ray Waller commented that the emergency services had previously said certain routes should not have physical calming measures because of the volume of traffic. There were also concerns around emergency vehicles being impeded by speed humps. Councillor Brash asked that the Scrutiny Forum look

at measures used in other areas around the country as he was sure there would be a type of speed hump which could be negotiated by emergency vehicles

Resident Ray McAndrew advocated the use of LED signage saying this would have more impact than traditional signage. Resident Representative Ted Jackson felt that signage would lead to clutter and there needed to be physical signs that drivers were entering a 20mph zone such as narrowing of entrances. Councillor Martyn Aiken referred to practice in the USA whereby grit or paving was put on low speed roads.

The Chair thanked the Scrutiny Support Officer for attending the meeting.

The meeting concluded at 4.05 pm

CHAIR

## **CENTRAL FORUM ISSUES RAISED 21 OCTOBER 2010**

### **MATTERS ARISING**

#### **Grange conservation area implemented in 2004 – enforcement action to be taken against any work carried out after 2009 – why the gap? (Ray McAndrew)**

HBC Conservation Officer informs that enforcement action will be taken against work carried out after 2004 when the conservation area was established. If works have been carried out that are contrary to planning legislation and the legal powers are available to take enforcement action the authority will do so.

#### **Co-op Building Pointing inadequate – listed building – why can tradesmen not be found to complete the work? (Ray McAndrew)**

The lack of skilled tradesman is a constant problem, more so when it comes to traditional building skills like correct pointing of brickwork. The problem is long term and deep seated stemming from the de-skilling of the building industry and the lack of investment by firms and government in training. The change in the organisation of the building industry from medium sized firms who could support apprenticeships to sole traders who generally cannot has also probably been a factor.

There are moves to correct this in the form of the regional Heritage Skills Initiative (HSI) sent up some five years ago to address the shortage of traditional skills by encouraging young people to take up a career in maintaining heritage buildings and to up-skill those older members of the industry to add heritage skills to their abilities. The HSI has been running one day and three day courses in heritage skills like pointing for the last three years with plans for the forthcoming year.

#### **Mountston Close – grass cutting needed outside no 27 (Brenda Loynes)**

This will be routinely picked up when the next cutting season commences.

## **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME & WARD ISSUES**

### **PARK WARD**

#### **Mountston Close – sign outside 24 badly faded – sign at Mereston covered by a big bush (Brenda Loynes)**

The Mountston Close sign is to be ordered with the next batch of signs, a letter has been sent out to the resident of Mereston Close to inform them of the concern.

### **FOGGY FURZE**

#### **Corner of Oakland – litter and flytipping (Martyn Aiken)**

This work has been undertaken.

## **RIFT HOUSE**

### **Garage rented from Housing Hartlepool – charged VAT on bill for first time in 20 years – people renting council houses don't pay VAT – discriminating (Phil Matthews)**

Housing Hartlepool have contacted Mr Mathews personally and provided him with a full response to this issue.

### **Laurel Gardens – mess between Garrick Grove and Nash Grove (Phil Matthews)**

Housing Hartlepool has acknowledged that this work needs to be undertaken, however because the area needs to be re-turfed this is likely now to be carried out in March/April 2011.

### **Fernbill Close – still no road sign (Hilda Wales)**

This street nameplate has now been installed.

### **Catcote Road / Stockton Road – adult education buses speeding getting children back from Brierton and Tees Valley Bus – bad language from young people (Phil Matthews)**

A message has gone to all drivers with regard to meeting the speed limit at all times, and concerns in relation to bad language have been passed onto Tees Valley bus company.

## **STRANTON WARD**

### **2a Elliot Street – constant leaking from overflow toilet for 3 years causing green sludge – child slipped (Julie Rudge)**

Bob Golightly has written to the owner to ensure that the repair is carried out.

### **Thornton Street – seating removed (Julie Rudge)**

The new benches will be installed in the next couple of weeks.

### **Huckelhoven Way – need for traffic calming – recent accident (Norma Morrish)**

Mainstream safety scheme funding is allocated primarily to those roads with the highest accident records. If the Forum felt this was an area they wished to prioritise for a scheme, then a limited budget is available to match fund schemes in this way.

### **1-5 Richard Court – uneven paving – danger for elderly residents**

This has now been repaired

### **Osborne Road – dropped kerb has white lines running across it – gives drivers permission to park there**

These lines will be removed so as not to partially block the driveway or give the impression that obstructing the driveway is permissible. The restrictions will be re-marked as per the requirements of the Dept of Transport's Traffic

Lines and General Directions that we are required to comply with as part of the enforcement of the parking restrictions. Mick Dunn (the Parking Enforcement Co coordinator) will be arranging this and will liaise with the resident prior to instructing contractors to amend the carriageway markings. This will take place once the weather improves.

**Tall Ships yellow lines – complaints from driver's regards where they are allowed to park (Jane Shaw)**

Work is proceeding quickly now to remove those yellow lines implemented prior to the Tall Ships which were always intended to be temporary. Highways are currently working on Seaton Lane, then Truro Drive and back along Catcote Road into the Central Forum area. Letter drops will be undertaken at the appropriate time informing residents to keep their cars out of the way thus enabling works to be undertaken.

**One Life Centre – staff leaving cigarette butts outside – Chair to write letter reprimanding PCT (Jane Shaw)**

This was discussed at a special meeting attended by the Chair of the Forum, Waldon Street residents, and the PCT. Cllr Shaw also arranged for HBCs Environmental Enforcement team to issue the manager of the centre with small cigarette stub out boxes, to be used by all those staff that smoke.

**Middleton Grange underground – need for fencing and more security – also request that representative of the shopping centre attend future forum to discuss issues raised – Chair guaranteed his attendance (Jane Shaw)**

Bob Golightly is currently in talks with Mark Rycraft the Manager of the Middleton Grange Shopping Centre regards the underpass regards its condition and safety. Following discussions with the Chair of the Forum Mark Rycraft has also confirmed his attendance at the December meeting.

**Civic Suite loop system – still not working (Ray Waller)**

Albert Williams will have an electrical engineer test the system to ensure it is working to its full potential.

**Cars parking across tactile dropped kerbs – wheelchairs unable to pass them (Ray Waller)**

HBC parking officers do now have the jurisdiction to enforce the obstruction of dropped tactile pavements. Officers have already issued several PCN's across the town for this type of contravention. We will continue to address this issue and ensure the dropped tactile kerbs remain a safe crossing point for those dependant upon wheel chair access or those suffering from a visual impairment.

**Park Road – when will repairs be carried out – white paint markings have already worn off twice (Ray McAndrew)**

HBC Highways inform that they are currently awaiting confirmation of dates from the external contractor, however given the current inclement weather this may be some time.

**Park Road – depression by traffic lights over York Road – may be giving way underneath (Ray McAndrew)**

This work has been undertaken.

**One Life Centre – no right turn when going straight down toward Huckelhoven way but drivers don't realise – suggest slip road to save people having to drive all the way down and back again (Ray McAndrew) – possibly roundabout (Bob Farrow)**

An additional sign is on order which will direct people coming down Park Road to turn left into the shopping centre car parks and then U-turn at the mini roundabout to access the One Life Centre.

**BURN VALLEY**

**20mph zones – signage needs to be improved – start and end of zone should be clear (Jonathan Brash)**

Additional signs have now been installed for the Elwick Rd area zone.

**York Road into Park Road – request provision of a right turn indicator to aid motorists (Bob Farrow)**

This will be monitored, to determine if unduly excessive queues are building up northbound on York Road waiting to turn right. Obviously putting extra green time into one phase takes it away from another so there needs to be a balance struck, but should queues be found to warrant this then a right filter could be added.

**St Matthew's Hall – railings leaning into pavement (Gerard Hall)**

Attempts are being made to straighten the railings. If unsuccessful then further repair may be necessary or the railing will be renewed.

**ELWICK WARD**

**Resurfacing in Elwick Ward from The Windmill to Falcon not done (Hilary Thompson)**

This is in the five year resurfacing program for years 2011/12 and 2012/13

**Tall Ships park and ride – request that changes made to the car park for the Tall Ships remain in place (Steven Mailien)**

Phil Hepburn acknowledged this at the Forum and would look to undertake.

**Elwick/Dalton crossroads – junction signage missing (Steven Mailien)**

New junction signage has been ordered and should be installed within the next couple of weeks.

**Devils Elbow Hartlepool to Elwick bend – chevrons vandalised (Steven Mailien)**

New chevron signage has been ordered and should be installed within the next couple of weeks.

**Elwick playground – retaining kerbs have disappeared and mud coming onto the path (Steven Mailien)**

A site meeting with the Chair of Elwick Parish Council has been arranged to discuss and progress this matter.

**Dalton – water near the Grove property leaking over the bridge – danger in the freezing weather (Steven Mailien)**

Although substantial works have been carried out a number of times in recent years at this location further investigations will be undertaken to source the flow and redirect into either formal or natural drainage systems.



**WARDS**

Burn Valley  
Elwick  
Foggy Furze  
Grange  
Park  
Rift House  
Stranton

***CENTRAL POLICE &  
COMMUNITY SAFETY  
CONSULTATIVE FORUM***

**11 November 2010**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**



The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. in the Belle Vue Community Sports and Youth Centre, Kendal Road, Hartlepool

**PRESENT:**

Chair:	Councillor Kevin Cranney	- Foggy Furze
Vice-Chair:	Resident Representative Evelyn Leck	
	Councillor Jonathan Brash	- Burn Valley Ward
	Councillor Pauline Laffey	- Park Ward
	Councillor Frances London	- Foggy Furze Ward
	Councillor Dr George Morris	- Park Ward
	Councillor Robbie Payne	- Stranton Ward
	Councillor Carl Richardson	- Grange Ward
	Councillor Hilary Thompson	- Elwick Ward

**Resident Representatives:**

Ted Jackson, Evelyn Leck, Steven Mailen, Brian McBean, Noma Morrish,

Residents: Emma Falve, Gordon Johnson, Stella Johnson, Noma Morrish, William Morrish, Ruth Stoddart, Jackie Swift, John Swift, Julie Tring, Ray Waller

**Council Officers:**

- Clare Clark, Neighbourhood Manager
- Nicholas Stone, Senior Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Carl Gatenby, Police Anti Social Behaviour Officer
- Jon Wright, Neighbourhood Co-ordinating Manager
- Julie Hetherington, Community Safety Assistant
- Andrew Hughes, Community Safety Project Officer
- Peter Gouldsbro, Community Safety Officer
- Sarah Bird, Democratic Services Officer

**Police Representatives:** Sgt Dave Halliday, Inspector Carl Broughton,

**Housing Hartlepool:** Linda Smith

**Fire Brigade Representative:** Peter Bradley

## 10. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

The Chair Councillor Kevin Cranney welcomed residents, Councillors and Officers.

## 11. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Aiken, Maness and Simmons and Resident Representatives Bob Farrow, Brenda Lloynes, Julie Rudge and Hilda Wales.

## 12. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2010

These were approved as a true record.

## 13. MATTERS ARISING

**Longhill Industrial Estate** – Resident Ray Waller expressed concern at the recent fires on the estate and asked when action would be taken to move these waste sites. This view was echoed by many others present. The Neighbourhood Manager said that talks were ongoing with the waste site operators. Resident Representative Ted Jackson reminded the meeting that these were on sites which had been approved by the Planning Authority. It was suggested that a meeting be held with owners of the waste sites.

## 14. UPDATE FROM THE POLICE

Sergeant Halliday gave an overview of performance for August and September for all of Cleveland as well as that specific to Hartlepool. 'Other Theft' had risen and this was in relation to metal. There had also been a rise in vehicle crime and house burglaries. However in Hartlepool

overall, there had been 56 fewer crimes across the district. Details of performance in the Central area in relation to arrests, detections, incidents were given. Sgt Halliday gave feedback on an incident with fly tipping which had been raised at the last meeting. In relation to the use of private traffic cones in Park Road Resident Ray Waller said that this was still ongoing. Sgt Halliday also referred to information received from an owner of a local guest house after seeing an article in the Hartlepool Mail. This had led the arrest of a high category criminal.

**Visual Audits** – Concern had been raised by Bob Farrow that these had ceased, however Inspector Broughton assured the meeting that these were still ongoing. The Neighbourhood Manager agreed to provide details of these to residents.

**Extra Police Officers in Shopping Centre** – Several attendees expressed concern that PCSOs were being removed from their Neighbourhood Policing duties to police Middleton Grange Shopping Centre. It was agreed to contact the District Commander to invite him to attend a meeting to enable residents, Resident Representatives and Members to voice their disquiet at the policy.

**Cuts in Police Budget** – Councillor Payne expressed concern that cuts in the budget would affect front line policing and that crime would soar. He asked what the Force priority would be for the next four years. Inspector Broughton reminded him that police staff duties were now outsourced to a private company, enabling the Force to make a £5 million saving per year. Police Officers would not be dismissed.

**PCSOs** – Councillor Brash highlighted that because of budget cuts temporary contracts were not being renewed. He

asked whether any Hartlepool PCSOs who were on permanent contacts would be deployed in other parts of the Force area. The Chair advised Councillor Brash to put that question to the District Commander.

#### **15. UPDATE FROM THE FIRE BRIGADE**

Peter Bradley updated the meeting on the number of fires in the Central Area. All had decreased with the exception of dwelling house fires which had remained the same. This was attributed to cooking fat fires and so work was ongoing to educate people about the dangers of this.

Hotspots in the Central Area were Sandgate Industrial Estate and Mainsforth Terrace area and enforcement action was ongoing with perpetrators. The meeting was advised of a problem with cable burning but following collaboration with scrap metal dealers who agreed not to buy small amounts of metal from vendors on foot or bikes, this problem had been resolved. Mr Bradley also advised the meeting of diversionary football initiatives for young people in the central area of the town. Mr Bradley stated that Bonfire night had been a success with calls down by 28% on the previous year.

**Smoke Alarms** – The meeting was advised that if the new fire angel detectors have been fitted in a property and it constantly beeps, then we would replace faulty ones.

#### **16. UPDATE FROM THE ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR UNIT**

The Police Antisocial Behaviour Officer provided details of the type of cases that

had been dealt with by the Unit and Housing Hartlepool between July and September 2010. There had been a decrease in the amount of Intimidation cases compared to the previous year. The Unit had been actively involved in resolving complaints in the Mitchell Street, Thornton Street and Dent Street and residents were thanked for their help in relation to these.

The Forum was reminded that nominations for the Pride in Hartlepool awards closed on 19 November. Details were given of the Antisocial Behaviour Awareness Day.

**Furness Street** – Resident John Swift stated that some residents were frightened to report incidents for fear of reprisals.

He had suffered repercussions after reporting problems.

He stated that he feels let down by the Unit and is unhappy that in his view issues have not been dealt with appropriately in his area.

The Senior Anti-Social Behaviour Officer stated he was aware of Mr Swift's concerns regarding his complaints and stated he could not agree with Mr Swift's comments and reassured the meeting that all complaints received by the Unit had been dealt with in an appropriate and timely manner and offered Mr Swift the opportunity to speak to the Anti-Social Behaviour co-ordinator about his concerns.

**ARMISTICE DAY - AT 11.00 AM TWO MINUTES SILENCE WAS OBSERVED.**

#### **17. UPDATE FROM THE CRIME AND DISORDER CO-ORDINATION UNIT**

The Community Safety Project Officer outlined initiatives which were ongoing in relation to Operation Cleansweep. Organised crime groups in the town were being targeted. A further priority was 'Prevent' agenda in relation to protection from violent extremism. The meeting was assured that CCTV provision in the town was a priority. The annual review of crime and disorder known as the Strategic Assessment was currently taking place. Hartlepool's Specialist Domestic Violence court had been launched by the Mayor in May. The Team had won the Excellent Partnership Working Award 2010 at the Celebrating success awards.

**Low Energy Street Lighting** – Resident Representative Evelyn Leck expressed concern that low energy lighting was to be used between 1.00 am and 5.00 am. She was informed that this was being trialled in 3 areas of the town and not in areas where there was a high crime rate. The Community Safety Project Officer would pass on her concerns to the Public Lighting Manager.

The meeting concluded at 11.27 am

CHAIR

**Report of:** Director of Regeneration and Neighbourhoods

**Subject:** HARTLEPOOL CORE STRATEGY – PUBLIC  
CONSULTATION ON THE REVISED PREFERRED  
OPTIONS REPORT

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## **1. PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform the Forum that the Core Strategy Preferred Options consultation will take place between the 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011.

## **2. BACKGROUND**

- 2.1 The Core Strategy is the strategic planning document which sets out how the town will be developed over the next 15 years. The process for developing the Core Strategy involves a number of stages starting with the identification of a range of Issues and Options following which the Council identifies its Preferred Options policies. Once these are agreed a 'final' Publication document is sent to the Government for consideration, and a Public Inquiry is held before the document is finally adopted by the Council. Each stage of the process involves extensive public consultation lasting for a period of 8 weeks.
- 2.2 Earlier this year, consultation took place on the Core Strategy Preferred Options document, and a report was presented to this Forum outlining the consultation process, highlighting the key issues affecting the area and inviting groups and individuals to submit comments. The consultation exercise generated over 450 responses and over the past few months these have been reviewed by Officers. A detailed summary of all responses received, and the Council's response to them, is set out in a Consultation Statement which is on the Council's website.
- 2.3 In addition there has been a change in Government at national level and the new Government has announced a number of planning policy changes. The most significant change is the intention to abolish the regional tier of planning, the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), which included certain policies which local Core Strategies had to comply with such as annual housing targets and employment land allocations. As a result of these changes and the consultation feedback, the Council's Cabinet has decided to revise certain aspects of the Core Strategy Preferred Options and to re-consult on this document.

### 3. PROPOSALS

3.1 Most of the Preferred Options included in the previous document are included in the revised document although there have been modifications to some of the policies and some additional policies have been added. A major change has been the reduction in the planned number of new houses by 1,225 over the Plan period, reflecting peoples concerns in Hartlepool that too many are being planned for, and following further analysis of housing growth projections.

3.2 The Preferred Options include:

- A south western extension and western expansion to the town with a new road access off the A689. The scale of this has been reduced by 350 dwellings to take account of the scaling back in overall numbers.
- Small expansions at Wynyard Woods and Tunstall Farm for executive housing plus additional small sites on part of Wynyard Business Park.
- A scaling back of the site at Quarry Farm from 300 to approximately 30 – 50 executive homes.
- The inclusion in the Core Strategy of policies relating to Affordable Housing which were previously included in a separate planning document.
- A Housing Market Renewal policy to help ensure that housing in the central areas of the town which are in most need of investment are targeted.
- Wynyard Business Park (apart from the small housing sites mentioned above and the potential new hospital) is retained as a Prestige Employment site; Queens Meadow and North Bum are Higher Quality Employment Sites, and; Oakesway is retained as General Employment Land, whilst the Southern Business Zone includes General Employment Land, some specialist industries eg chemicals and a proposed Eco-Industries Zone including environmental waste management.
- Victoria Harbour is allocated for port-related uses.
- A small extension to the town centre boundary to include the Mill House leisure centre.
- A site is earmarked for a potential replacement nuclear power station adjacent to the existing one.
- New policies are included in relation to the historic environment including protection of Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.
- New green wedges are proposed within the south west extension and Golden Flatts, and the Middle Warren green wedge is proposed for future extension through the hospital site and around Oakesway.

### 4 NEXT STEPS

4.1 This amended Preferred Options Document is available for public consultation between Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2010 and Friday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2011. It can be viewed at the Civic Centre, local libraries and on the

Council's website <http://planningpolicy.hartlepool.gov.uk>. Letters are also being sent to all households in the Borough informing them of the consultation process and how to get involved. A number of public consultation events and meetings will be held throughout this period where Planning Officers will be in attendance, to receive views on the direction and content of the revised Preferred Options Document.

## **5. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 5.1 That the report is noted and that interested parties be encouraged to submit any representations on the Core Strategy Preferred Options Report during the consultation period which ends on 11th February 2011.